### Reminders...

East Valley Dial-A-Ride provides door-to-door, shared ride public transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities. Service hours vary; call 480-633-0101 for details.

#### ••••

The City is training volunteers to help low- and moderate-income families prepare their individual income tax returns. No experience is needed. Call 480-782-4358 for more information.

#### ••••

City offices will be closed:

Friday, December 31, for **New Year's Day**.

Monday, January 17, for Martin Luther King Jr./Civil Rights Day, and

Monday, February 21, for **Presidents' Day**.

Trash and recycling collection will not be affected by these holidays and normal collection will occur. Recycling Solid Waste Collection Center (self-haul transfer facility) will be open Friday, December 31 and closed Saturday, January 1; Monday, January 17; and Monday, February 21.

The estimated population for the City of Chandler as of November 1, 2010, is 255,098.



# A holiday message from the Mayor

It is my honor to once again wish you and your family a happy holiday season. As the new year approaches, it's always a good time to reflect on the past. I want to thank you for the opportunity to have served Chandler as Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilmember for the past 16 years. This is a wonderful City, and to truly participate in the development of our community has been a privilege. While there will always be challenges, I believe some exciting opportunities are on the horizon for the City of Chandler.

Perhaps now more than ever, some of our neighbors may require a little extra help getting by this holiday season. Chandler has several agencies that can facilitate a donation through their many worthy programs. If you are able to offer assistance, contact a favorite service agency of your own, or call the United Way at 602-631-4869 for information on

other human service organizations in our community. Also, the Chandler Acts of Kindness program, or A-OK for short, gives residents an opportunity to donate \$2 (or more) with their utility payment each month.



These contributions support a variety of human service programs. Please participate if you can.

Finally, remember to "Invest Wisely, Shop Chandler," through the holidays, and throughout the year. On behalf of the City Council and City staff, I wish all of you a safe and joyous holiday season.

Mayor Bond W. Dunn

## Chandler water and wastewater rates lowest

With our economy in a state of flux and families everywhere assessing their home budgets, this is a good time for Chandler residents to take a closer look at the value they are getting for their local taxes and fees.

Chandler taxpayers can be assured that their community continues to have some of the lowest utility charges, staffing levels and taxes in the Valley of the Sun. In fact, a series of articles in the *Arizona Republic* in March and April 2010 noted that among major Valley cities, Chandler has the lowest cost of service to its residents, including the lowest combined water and sewer (wastewater) rates.

Municipal water and wastewater fees are not a for-profit venture for the City. The fees collected go just toward the cost of providing water and wastewater services. Therefore, as system maintenance, energy costs, or capital needs change, the Chandler City Council must consider changes in water and/or sewer rates to help maintain a fiscal balance.

Meeting our current and future water production and wastewater treatment needs requires the City of Chandler to propose increases to the fees currently charged to all utility customers for the sale of water, sewer (wastewater), and reclaimed water. Four utility

WATER ... continued on page two



## Tree disposal options

Looking for a way to dispose of your Christmas tree?

• Drop off boxes are available at the following locations from Sat., December 26 through Fri., January 14:

West Chandler Park, 250 S. Kyrene Rd. Desert Breeze Park, 660 N. Desert Breeze Blvd. E. Arrowhead Meadows Park, 1475 W. Erie St. Shawnee Park, 1400 W. Mesquite St. Pima Park, 625 N. McQueen Rd. Folley Park, 601 E. Frye Rd. Chuparosa Park, 2400 S. Dobson Rd. Snedigar Sportsplex, 4625 S. Alma School Rd. Tumbleweed Park, 2250 S. McQueen Rd. Recycling Solid Waste Collection Center, 955 E. Queen Creek Rd.

- Trees will also be collected separately on your recycling collection day, from Mon., December 27 - Fri., January 14 or you can schedule a free curbside bulk collection by calling 480-782-3510. Trees must be at the edge of the driveway by 6 a.m. on the day of collection. Remove tree stands, lights, ornaments and nails and leave the tree out until it is collected.
- Live potted Christmas trees can be donated by dropping off at the City's Community Center or can be scheduled for pick up by calling 480-782-2745.

#### WATER ... continued from page one

rate options are currently being considered. Under any of those options, homeowners will still be paying less than in other major Valley cities. Several public meetings will be held to keep residents informed and obtain their feedback. Information will also be shared through this newsletter and on the City Website at: www.chandleraz.gov/utilitybill.

Meanwhile, the City of Chandler will continue to explore ways to contain utility costs while also maintaining sound fiscal policies that enable the City to provide quality amenities, outstanding service levels and overall value. This is what our residents have come to expect, and what makes our community a great place to live, work and play.

## Only rain in the storm drain

The City streets and gutters are designed to direct rain and runoff into storm drains. Such runoff can pick up debris and pollutants that have been previously deposited on the streets. In some cases, the storm drains lead to common area retention basins or parks where pets and children play. In order to protect the environment and your neighbors, we ask that you do your part to prevent pollution by practicing the following tips:

- Park vehicles that leak fluids on private property.
- Clean up spills using a dry absorbent and dispose of properly.
- Before draining your pool, call 480-782-3507 or visit www.chandleraz.gov and search for "pool drainage."
- Pick up and properly dispose of debris. Sweeping debris, including landscaping debris, into the street does not make it go away.
- Pick up after your pet.
- Wash paint brushes and rollers indoors or allow to dry and place in the trash.

- Dry, empty latex paint cans can be disposed of in the trash.
- Properly cover and store hazardous materials. This also prevents accidental spills and poisoning of children and pets.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers as directed.
- Dispose of household hazardous waste properly. Call 480-782-3510 for more information.
- Use a commercial car wash for heavily soiled vehicles.

### Multicultural Festival returns

The 16th Annual Chandler Multicultural Festival takes place Saturday, January 15, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Downtown Library courtyard. The festival highlights the cultural diversity of our community through music, dance, art, a storytelling children's area and more. Dedication of Service Award winners will be announced. Winners of the Creative Expression Competition will also be displayed. Admission is free to all of the Multicultural Festival events. Call 480-782-2665, or visit www.chandleraz.gov/unity for more information.

The award-winning CityScope newsletter is published monthly by the City of Chandler Communications & Public Affairs Department. 175 S. Arizona Avenue • Chandler, AZ 85225 Editor: Jennifer Honea • 480-782-2220

Your City officials want input on how to build a better community. E-mail your comments to: service@chandleraz.gov.



Tune in to Cable Channel 11 for live coverage and replays of meetings, bulletin board **VOLER** announcements, original programming and more.

Go to **www.chandleraz.gov** for current meeting information.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this publication can be made available in an alternative format, if requested. It can also be made available in Spanish.

> Si desea esta información en español por favor llame al teléfono 480-782-2231.



**Chandler City Council** -- Front row from left: Trinity Donovan, Mayor Boyd W. Dunn, Rick Heumann. Back row from left: Bob Caccamo, Jeff Weninger, Jack Sellers, Matt

The Mayor & Council can be contacted at 480-782-2200.